

SECTION CC-1 NSN/ITEM DESCRIPTION

PCR-P-011 POTATOES, MASHED, PACKAGED IN A FLEXIBLE POUCH, SHELF STABLE

Each component is consumed by combat personnel under worldwide environmental extremes as part of an operational ration, and is a source of nutritional intake.

C-2 PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS

A. Product standard. A sample shall be subjected to first article or product demonstration model inspection as applicable, in accordance with the tests and inspections of Section E of this Performance-based Contract Requirements document.

B. Commercial sterility. The packaged food shall be processed until commercially sterile.

C. Shelf life. The packaged food shall meet the minimum shelf life requirement of 36 months at 80°F.

D. Appearance.

(1) General. The mashed potatoes shall be off white to pale tan in color, moderately thick, and may have some small lumps. The product shall show no evidence of excessive heating (materially darkened or scorched). The mashed potatoes may have pieces of potato skin.

(2) Foreign. The packaged food shall be free from foreign materials.

E. Odor and flavor.

(1) General. The product shall have a processed potato and mild butter odor and flavor.

(2) Foreign. The mashed potatoes shall be free from foreign odors and flavors.

F. Texture. The mashed potatoes shall be moderately thick and may have small soft lumps. The mashed potatoes shall not be pasty.

G. Weight. The average net weight shall be not less than 5.0 ounces. No individual pouch shall contain less than 4.5 ounces.

H. Palatability and overall appearance. The finished product shall be equal to or better than the approved product standard in palatability and overall appearance.

I. Nutrient content.

(1) Fat content. The fat content shall be not greater than 5.0 percent.

(2) Salt content. The salt content shall be not greater than 1.3 percent.

(3) Moisture content. The moisture content shall be not greater than 83.0 percent.

SECTION C CONTINUEDC-3 MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

THE FOLLOWING IS PROVIDED FOR INFORMATION ONLY TO PROVIDE THE BENEFIT OF PAST GOVERNMENT EXPERIENCE. THIS IS NOT A MANDATORY CONTRACT REQUIREMENT.

A. Ingredients and formulation. Ingredients and formulation percentages may be as follows:

<u>Ingredients</u>	<u>Percent by weight</u>
Dehydrofrozen potatoes	47.00
Water	46.97
Margarine	5.00
Salt	1.00
White pepper, ground	0.03

SECTION DD-1 PACKAGING

Product shall be filled into pouches and each pouch shall be packed in a carton in accordance with MIL-PRF-44073, Packaging of Food in Flexible Pouches.

D-2 LABELING

A. Pouches. Each pouch shall be clearly printed or stamped, in a manner that does not damage the pouch, with permanent black ink or any other contrasting color, which is free of carcinogenic elements or ingredients. To avoid erroneous marking of pouches, the product name, lot number and filling equipment number shall be applied prior to thermal processing. All other marking may be applied before or after thermal processing.

- (1) Product name (not less than 1/8 inch high). Commonly used abbreviations may be used when authorized by the inspection agency.
- (2) Pouch code includes: 1/
Lot Number
Filling equipment identification number
Official establishment number (for example, EST-38)
(applicable to class 1 and 3 only)
Retort identification number 2/
Retort cook number 2/

1/ Shall be code marked as follows: The lot number shall be expressed as a four digit Julian code. The first digit shall indicate the year of production and the next three digits shall indicate the day of the year (Example, March 19, 1995 would be coded as 5078). The Julian code shall represent the day the product was packaged into the pouch and processed. Sub-lotting (when used) shall be represented by an alpha character immediately following the four digit Julian code. Following the four digit Julian code and the alpha character (when used), the other required code information shall be printed in the sequence as listed above. For food products that do not require an establishment number, the Julian code shall be preceded by three capital letters, which represent the packer's name.

2/ Required only when retort process used

B. Cartons.

(1) The cartons shall be clearly printed on one of the largest panel with permanent black ink as follows:

- a. Product name (7/32 to 9/32 inch block letters).
- b. Ingredients (class 1, 2, and 3 - mandatory;
class 4 - not applicable).
- c. Net weight.
- d. Name and address of packer.
- e. Code (same as pouch code, see pouches). 1/ 2/
- f. USDA approval stamp for the packers plant (applicable to meat and poultry items only).
- g. "Nutrition Facts" label in accordance with the Nutrition Labeling and Education Act (NLEA) and all applicable FDA/USDA regulations.

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1/ Code may be ink printed on any outside carton panel. Code may be embossed on any outside carton panel except the largest panels of the carton.

2/ Official establishment number not required in carton code.

(2) Military nutrition information shall be printed on the large carton panel opposite to the panel printed with the data in D-2,B,(1) above. The information, provided by the contacting officer, shall be clearly printed with permanent black ink in an area no smaller than 3 3/4 inches by 5 3/4 inches as follows:

a. On entrée cartons - the information entitled "Military Rations Are Good Performance Meals".

b. On non-entrée cartons - the information entitled "Nutrition: A FORCE MULTIPLIER".

D-3 PACKING

A. Packing for shipment to ration assembler. Seventy-two pouches (of the same product) in cartons shall be packed flat or on edge in a snug-fitting fiberboard shipping container conforming to style RSC, type CF, class domestic, grade 200 of ASTM D 5118, Standard Practice for Fabrication of Fiberboard Shipping Boxes. Each container shall be securely closed in accordance with ASTM D 1974, Standard Practice for Methods of Closing, Sealing, and Reinforcing Fiberboard Shipping Containers.

D-4 MARKING

A. Shipping containers. Shipping containers shall be marked in accordance with DPSC Form 3556, Marking Instructions for Shipping Cases, Sacks and Palletized/Containerized Loads of Perishable and Semiperishable Subsistence.

SECTION E INSPECTION AND ACCEPTANCEDefinitions.

(1) Critical defect. A critical defect is a defect that judgment and experience indicate would result in hazardous or unsafe conditions for individuals using, maintaining, or depending on the item; or a defect that judgment and experience indicate is likely to prevent the performance of the major end item, i.e., the consumption of the ration.

(2) Major defect. A major defect is a defect, other than critical, that is likely to result in failure, or to reduce materially the usability of the unit of product for its intended purpose.

(3) Minor defect. A minor defect is a defect that is not likely to reduce materially the usability of the unit of product for its intended purpose, or is a departure from established standards having little bearing on the effective use or operation of the unit.

E-5 PACKAGING AND PACKING MATERIALSQuality Assurance Provisions.

The following quality assurance criteria, utilizing ANSI/ASQC Z1.4-1993, Sampling Procedures and Tables for Inspection by Attributes, are required.

A. Packaging and labeling.

(1) Pouch material testing. The pouch material shall be examined for the characteristics listed in table I. The lot size, sample unit, and inspection level criteria are provided for each of the test characteristics. Any test failure shall be classified as a major defect and shall be cause for rejection of the lot.

TABLE I. Pouch material quality assurance criteria

Characteristic	Lot size expressed in	Sample unit	Inspection level
Oxygen transmission rate	yards	½ yard	S-1
Water vapor transmission rate	yards	½ yard	S-1
Camouflage	yards	½ yard	S-1
Thermal processing	pouches	1 pouch	S-2
Environmental conditions	pouches	1 pouch	S-2

(2) Pouch examination. The pouches shall be examined for the defects listed in table II of MIL-PRF-44073E. The lot size shall be expressed in pouches. The sample unit shall be one thermal processed pouch. The inspection level shall be I and the acceptable quality level (AQL), expressed in terms of defects per hundred units, shall be 0.65 for major A defects, 2.5 for major B defects, and 4.0 for minor defects. Two hundred sample units shall be examined for critical defects. The finding of any critical defect shall be cause for rejection of the lot.

(3) Examination of pouch and carton assembly. The completed pouch and carton assemblies shall be examined for the defects listed in table III of MIL-PRF-44073E. The lot size shall be expressed in units of completed assemblies. The sample unit shall be one pouch and carton assembly. The inspection level shall be S-3 and the AQL, expressed in terms of defects per

hundred units, shall be 0.65 for major defects and 2.5 for minor defects. Fifty sample pouch and carton assemblies shall be examined for critical defects. The finding of any critical defect shall be cause for rejection of the lot.

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B. Packing.

(1) Shipping container examination. The filled and sealed shipping containers shall be examined for the defects listed below. The lot size shall be expressed in shipping containers. The sample unit shall be one shipping container fully packed. The inspection level shall be S-2 and the AQL shall be 2.5 defects per 100 unit.

TABLE II. Shipping container defects

Category	Defect
<u>Major</u>	
101	Marking omitted, incorrect, illegible of improper size, location sequence or method of application.
102	Any material component missing or damaged or not as specified.
103	Inadequate workmanship. <u>1/</u>
104	Contents more or less than specified.

1/ Inadequate workmanship is defined as, but not limited to incomplete closure of container flaps, loose strapping, inadequate stapling, improper taping, or bulged or distorted container..

E-6 QUALITY ASSURANCE PROVISIONS (Product)

Quality Assurance Provisions.

The following quality assurance criteria, utilizing ANSI/ASQC Z1.4-1993, Sampling Procedures and Tables for Inspection by Attributes, are required.

A. Classification of inspections. The inspection requirements specified herein are classified as follows:

(1) Product standard inspection. The first article or product demonstration model shall be inspected in accordance with the provisions of this Performance-based Contract Requirements document and evaluated for overall appearance and palatability. Any failure to conform to the performance requirements or any appearance or palatability failure shall be cause for rejection.

(2) Conformance inspection. Conformance inspection shall include the product examination and the methods of inspection cited in this section.

B. Product examination. The finished product shall be examined for compliance with the performance requirements specified in Section C of this Performance-based Contract Requirements document utilizing the double sampling plans indicated in ANSI/ASQC Z1.4 - 1993. The lot size shall be expressed in pouches. The sample unit shall be the contents of one pouch. The inspection level shall be S-3 and the acceptable quality level (AQL), expressed in terms

of defects per hundred units, shall be 1.5 for major defects and 4.0 for minor defects. Defects and defect classifications are listed in table III.

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TABLE III. Product defects 1/ 2/

Category		Defect
<u>Major</u>	<u>Minor</u>	
		<u>Appearance</u>
101		Evidence of excessive heating (materially darkened or scorched).
	201	Color of mashed potatoes not off white to pale tan in color.
	202	Mashed potatoes not moderately thick.
		<u>Odor and flavor</u>
102		Product does not have a processed potato and mild butter odor or flavor.
		<u>Texture</u>
	203	Mashed potatoes not moderately thick.
	204	Mashed potatoes pasty.
		<u>Weight</u>
	205	Net weight of an individual pouch less than 4.5 ounces. 3/

1/ Presence of any foreign material such as, but not limited to dirt, insect parts, hair, glass, wood or metal, or foreign odors or flavors such as, but not limited to burnt, scorched, rancid, sour, or stale shall be cause for rejection of the lot.

2/ Finished product not equal to or better than the approved product standard in palatability and overall appearance shall be cause for rejection of the lot.

3/ If the sample average net weight is less than 5.0 ounces, the lot shall be rejected.

C. Methods of inspection.

(1) Commercial sterility. Testing for commercial sterility shall be in accordance with MIL-PRF-44073.

(2) Shelf life. The contractor shall provide a certificate of conformance that the product has a 3 year shelf life when stored at 80°F. Government verification may include storage for 6 months at 100°F or 36 months at 80°F. Upon completion of either storage period, the product will be subjected to a sensory evaluation panel for appearance and palatability and must receive an overall score of 5 or higher based on a 9 point hedonic scale to be considered acceptable.

(3) Net weight. The net weight of the filled and sealed pouches shall be determined by weighing each sample on a suitable scale tared with a representative empty pouch. Results shall be reported to the nearest 0.1 ounce.

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(4) Nutrient content. The sample to be analyzed shall be a composite of eight filled and sealed pouches which have been selected at random from the lot. The composited sample shall be prepared (see NOTE) and analyzed for moisture content, fat content, and salt content in accordance with the following methods of the Official Methods of Analysis of AOAC International:

<u>Test</u>	<u>Method Number</u>
Moisture	925.45D
Fat	960.39, 985.15
Salt	935.47

Test results shall be reported to the nearest 0.1 percent. Any result not conforming to the requirements specified in Section C of this Performance-based Contract Requirements document shall be cause for rejection of the lot.

NOTE: The USDA will use AOAC method 983.18 for preparation of the sample.

SECTION J REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

DPSC FORM

DPSC FORM 3556 Marking Instructions for Shipping Cases, Sacks and
Palletized/Containerized Loads of Perishable and Semiperishable
Subsistence, May 96

MILITARY SPECIFICATION

MIL-PRF-44073 - Packaging of Food in Flexible Pouches

NON-GOVERNMENTAL STANDARDS

AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR QUALITY CONTROL (ASQC)

ANSI/ASQCZ1.4-1993 - Sampling Procedures and Tables for Inspection by
Attributes

AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR TESTING AND MATERIALS (ASTM)

D 1974 - Standard Practice for Methods of Closing, Sealing, and
Reinforcing Fiberboard Shipping Containers

D 5118 - Standard Practice for Fabrication of Fiberboard Shipping
Boxes

AOAC INTERNATIONAL

Official Methods of Analysis of the AOAC International

AMSSB-RCF-F(N) (Richards/5037)
16 December 2002

TO: DSCP-HRAC (Galligan/8030)

SUBJECT: ES03-027, (DSCP-SS-03-00858), DSCP Contract, SPO300-D-Z105, Request change to labeling requirement in Beans, Western; PCR-C-045, Clam Chowder, New England Style; PCR-M-009, Macaroni and Cheese, Mexican Style; PCR-M-004, Minestrone Stew; PCR-P-011, Potatoes, Mashed; PCR-R-007, Refried Beans; PCR-R-001, Rice.

1. Date received: 26 November 2002
Date due: 11 December 2002
Date replied: 16 December 2002

2. The Natick Soldier Center (NSC) recommends the following change to the subject PCRs for use in all current, pending and future procurements until the document is formally amended or revised:

Section D:

Para D-2B. (2), in last line, after "smaller than" delete "4-1/4 inches by 6-3/4 inches" and substitute "3-3/4 inches by 5-3/4 inches"

3. See attached revised PCRs.

4. POC for this action is Mr. Peter Sherman x4062 or Mr. Allen Richards, X5037.

DONALD A. HAMLIN
Team Leader
DoD Food Engineering
Services Team

(ARichards)

CF: NSC:

Acheson	Sherman
Alyward	Trottier
Friel	Valvano
Hamlin	
Hill	
Konrady A.	
Richards	

CF: DSCP & SVCs:

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Arthur	Lowry
Beward	Malason
Charette	Richardson H.
Ferrante	Salerno
Galligan	
Hoffman	